

What is claimed is:

1. An image processing method for image processing by using information indicating characteristics of all or part of a consumer item and a routine thereof, comprising
5 the steps of

generating material module data indicating an attribute of a material;

generating element generating processing module data indicating an attribute of processing for generating
10 an element serving as a component of a first artifact, that is, said consumer item, by using said material;

generating element module data indicating an attribute of said element using said material module data and said element generating processing module data;

15 generating first artifact module data indicating an attribute of said first artifact using said element module data;

generating second artifact module data indicating an attribute of a second artifact to be linked
20 with said first artifact;

storing said first artifact module data and said second artifact module data in a searchable form;
and

25 generating image data of a scene connecting said first artifact and said second artifact by using

said stored first artifact module data and said second artifact module data.

2. An image processing method for image processing by using information indicating characteristics of all or 5 part of a consumer item and a routine thereof, comprising the steps of

generating element module data indicating an attribute of an element serving as a component of a first artifact, that is, said consumer item;

10 generating first artifact module data indicating an attribute of said first artifact by using said element module data;

generating second artifact module data indicating an attribute of a second artifact to be linked 15 with said first artifact; and

generating image data of a scene linking said first artifact and said second artifact by using said first artifact module data and said second artifact module data.

20 3. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising the steps of inputting image data of a target element, analyzing the input image data, and generating said element module data by using said material module data and said element generating 25 processing module data selected based on results of the

analysis.

4. An image processing method as set forth in
claim 2, further comprising the steps of
generating material shape module data obtained
5 by gathering information relating to a shape of said
material, material color module data obtained by
gathering information regarding a color of said material,
material texture module data obtained by gathering
information regarding a texture of said material, and
10 material combination module data obtained by gathering
information indicating a combined pattern of the shape,
color, and design of said material and
generating said element module data by
combining information gathered with at least one of said
15 material shape module data, said material color module
data, and said material pattern module data based on a
combined pattern indicated by said material combination
module data.

5. An image processing method as set forth in
20 claim 4, further comprising the steps of inputting image
data of a target element, analyzing the input image data,
and generating said element module data by using said
material combination module data, said material shape
module data, said material color module data, and said
25 material pattern module data selected based on results of

the analysis.

6. An image processing method as set forth in
claim 2, further comprising the steps of
generating first artifact generating processing
5 module data indicating an attribute of processing
performed by using said element so as to obtain said
first artifact and
generating said first artifact module data by
using said element module data and said first artifact
10 generating processing module data.

7. An image processing method as set forth in
claim 6, further comprising the steps of inputting image
data of a target first artifact, analyzing the input
image data, and generating said first artifact module
15 data by using said element module data and said first
artifact generating processing module data based on
results of the analysis.

8. An image processing method as set forth in
claim 2, further comprising the steps of
20 generating second artifact part module data
indicating an attribute of a part of said second
artifact;
generating second artifact generating
processing module data indicating an attribute of
25 processing for obtaining said second artifact by

combining a plurality of said parts; and

generating said second artifact module data by using said second artifact part module data and said second artifact generating processing module data.

5 9. An image processing method as set forth in claim 8, wherein said second artifact part module data includes information indicating a relationship with another second artifact part and said first artifact.

10 10. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising the steps of inputting image data of a target scene, analyzing the input image data, and generating said image data by using said first artifact module data and said second artifact module data selected based on results of the analysis.

15 11. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising the steps of generating at least one at least one of said element module data, said first artifact module data, said second artifact module data, and said scene based on information on an environment wherein said first artifact or said second artifact is used or an environment to which said scene is applied.

20 12. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising the step of generating image data of said scene based on information regarding at

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least one of a background, visual point, and light source of said scene.

13. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising managing at least one of said 5 module data by defining it using an object oriented object or file, classifying it in accordance with its attributes, and adding a tag in accordance with the classification.

10 14. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said module data indicates said attributes by using at least one of an image, sound, and text.

15 15. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said module data is a hyper data having a hyperlink function for referring to another entity.

16. A program indicating a routine of image processing using information indicating characteristics of all or a part of a consumer item or its routine and executed by a computer, comprising:

20 a routine for generating element module data indicating an attribute of an element serving as a component of a first artifact, that is, said consumer item;

25 a routine for generating first artifact module data indicating an attribute of said first artifact by

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using said element module data;
a routine for generating second artifact module
data indicating an attribute of a second artifact to be
linked with said first artifact; and

5 a routine for generating image data of a scene
wherein said first artifact and said second artifact are
linked by using said first artifact module data and said
second artifact module data.

10 17. An image processing apparatus for image
processing using information indicating characteristics
of all or part of a consumer item or its routine, said
apparatus

15 generating element module data indicating an
attribute of an element serving as a component of a first
artifact, that is, said consumer item;

generating first artifact module data
indicating an attribute of said first artifact by using
said element module data;

20 generating second artifact module data
indicating an attribute of a second artifact to be linked
with said first artifact; and

25 generating image data of a scene wherein said
first artifact and said second artifact are linked by
using said first artifact module data and said second
artifact module data.

18. An image processing apparatus as set forth in
claim 17, said apparatus further

generating material module data indicating an
attribute of a material;

5 generating element generating processing module
data indicating an attribute of processing for generating
said element by using said material; and

10 generating said element module data indicating
an attribute of said element generated by processing said
material by using said material module data and said
element generating processing data.

15 19. An image processing apparatus as set forth in
claim 18, said apparatus further inputting image data of
a target element, analyzing the input image data, and
generating said element module data by using said
material module data and said element generating
processing module data selected based on results of the
analysis.

20 20. An image processing apparatus as set forth in
claim 17, said apparatus further

generating material shape module data obtained
by gathering information relating to a shape of said
material, material color module data obtained by
gathering information regarding a color of said material,
25 material texture module data obtained by gathering

information regarding a texture of said material, and
material combination module data obtained by gathering
information indicating a combined pattern of the shape,
color, and design of said material and

- 5 generating said element module data by
combining information gathered with at least one of said
material shape module data, said material color module
data, and said material pattern module data based on a
combined pattern indicated by said material combination
10 module data.